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(*f*) whether Government have received complaints against the Central Co-operative Stores?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) Yes. A quantity of 570 tons of paddy was received.

" (*b*) Yes. Of the quantity specified in answer to (*a*) 270 tons of paddy was allotted to Chingleput district. Out of the rice shipments received from abroad in August and September 3,930 tons were allotted to Chingleput in addition to the 270 tons of paddy.

" (*c*) Yes. The Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores are the clearing agents for all paddy and rice imported from overseas; but they are not the sole wholesalers. The entire overseas quota was handled by the Stores but part of imports from provincial sources were handled by others.

" (*d*) The Co-operative Wholesale Stores are the procuring agents for the Chingleput Division which comprises Chingleput, Madurantakam and Conjeeveram taluks. They also do procurement in the Saidapet and Pallikaranai firkas of Saidapet taluk. No information is available as to whether they took the entire paddy allotted to the taluks of Chingleput, Madurantakam and Conjeeveram.

" (*e*) The Co-operative Wholesale Stores are not the procuring agents for the taluks of Sriperumbudur, Ponneri and Trivellore. They are procuring agents only for a portion of Saidapet taluk. Complaints have been received of inequitable distribution against the Co-operative Stores. The Collector distributed local and imported stocks so as to ensure adequate stocks in all taluks.

" (*f*) No complaints have been received."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Are the Government aware whether the Chingleput Co-operative Stores who are the suppliers for three of the taluks in the district have not given any portion of the imported paddy to these three taluk wholesalers? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" The Government will look into the question and do the needful."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are the Government aware that the Chingleput District Wholesale Co-operative Stores is one of the best stores? ".

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" In the face of these two supplementary questions the Government are not in a position to decide."

Promotion of Elementary Education by District Boards.

* 85-C *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state if orders have been issued to the district boards of backward districts in receipt of subsidy for the promotion of elementary education not to close

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down elementary schools pending further consideration by Government, and if so, what exactly the orders are?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
" Orders have been issued to the President of the Anantapur District Board not to close the schools, pending final orders of the Government on the representations."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I ask whether a similar order was issued to the President, District Board, Bellary? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
" No Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Was there not also a complaint that they were forced to close down their schools? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
" No, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know why a differentiation has been made between Anantapur and Bellary? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
" No differentiation has been made."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Was not a representation made jointly by the two district boards? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
" Originally a representation was made jointly, but the representation regarding the closing of the schools was received only from Anantapur."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of informing the other district boards as well that there is no need to close the schools pending further examination? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
" In the meantime the Government will be passing final orders on their representations."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MOTION UNDER RULE 15 (3) OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RULES.

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—" Mr. President, Sir, with your permission, I move—

'*that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill,* 1946 (*L.A. Bill No.* 7 *of* 1946), *as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration under rule* 15 (3) *of the Madras Legislative Council Rules as the first item after questions on Friday, the* 13*th September* 1946, *that is just now.*'

" Sir, my reason for making this motion is this. In connection with the work of the Pay Committee, we three of us of the Cabinet have decided to go to Ootacamund. I therefore request that this item may be taken up and finished before others are taken."

The motion was put and carried.